

## Best Civitan Minstrel Yet Slated Here Friday Night

The third annual Civitan Minstrel will be held at the Tabor City school auditorium Friday night, May 2, at 8:00 and officials of the local Civitan club here this week stated that this event was the best so far.

One of the features of this year's production is a highly talented acrobatic dance team and there will also be another stage act of accordion music.

About 30 people have parts in this year's production that is being directed by Bob Hodges, director of the Columbus county band. Mr. Hodges has directed the two previous minstrels that have been put on here by the Civitans.

Ed Walden, local warehouseman and who is associated at present with the Tabor City Marketing Company, will deliver his famed "religious sermon." This act has been heard by local persons on several occasions but never ceases being a masterpiece of entertainment.

A local barbershop quartet will render several numbers of a humorous and entertaining nature. This quartet is composed of W. W. Woody, Phil Hughes, David Kelly and Dick Garrett. Besides the quartet, several solos are on the program including "Black Cat Blues" by Rev. G. W. Crutchfield; "Way Back Home" by H. G. Dameron; and "Caroline" by Thurston Rogers.

Receipts from this year's production will be used for various civic improvement of Tabor City including the proposed playground for local children. This playground project was selected as one of the "Finer Carolina" projects and the Civitans are co-sponsors of this particular objective.

The Civitan Minstrel has been well attended in all past seasons and with this year's event labeled as the best one yet, a good crowd is expected.

### MANLESS WEDDING TO BE PRESENTED BY HD CLUB

The East Tabor Homemakers present a "Manless Wedding" at the Tabor City school auditorium on Wednesday evening, May 7, at 8 o'clock, officials of the club announced.

Lee Greer of Whiteville will be the featured speaker for the evening.

A quilt will be given to the lucky number holder during the program.

The public is invited. There will be no admission charge.

### Mrs. Crutchfield Calls Executive Meeting Of Club

Mrs. G. W. Crutchfield presided at an executive meeting of the Tabor City Woman's club at her home Tuesday afternoon at which time plans were laid for the ensuing year.

Mrs. Crutchfield is the newly elected president of the club succeeding Miss Anne Brooks McGougan.

Attending the meeting were Mrs. J. C. Singletary, Mrs. R. B. Mallard, Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, Mrs. Horace Roberts, Mrs. Leonard Leonard, Miss Anne Brooks McGougan, and Miss Kate Jones.

### Special Army Jobs Open To H.S. Grads

Special jobs are open in the Army for high school graduates Sgt. Ford C. Youmans, county recruiting sergeant, announced today.

The graduates may enlist for three years and receive 18 weeks basic training after which they will have a choice of 30 schools to attend.

The length of courses range from 12 to 18 weeks.

The graduates may also apply for Officers Candidate School the sergeant said.

Sgt. Youmans is at the Tabor City Post Office each Wednesday from 10 o'clock a. m. to 1 o'clock p. m.

Headquarters are at the City building in Whiteville.

### SONGFEST SUNDAY BRINGS TOGETHER YOUNG MUSICIANS

Four hundred trained voices, representing 10 glee clubs, and the 100-piece concert band of the Columbus County Schools will be heard in an unusual program of sacred and classical music on Sunday, May 4, at Williams Township High School.

The mass assembly of musicians will take place at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The idea of bringing the glee clubs of all the schools and the Columbus County Band together was conceived by B. D. Bunn, supervisor of instruction in the county system.

County Superintendent T. Ward Guy will open the program with a welcome to the musicians and the audience.

Glee clubs from Acme-Delco, Hallsboro, Old Dock-Nakina, Williams, Tabor City, Whiteville, Chadbourn, Cerro Gordo, Fair Bluff and Evergreen will each render two selections, and the band will follow with two numbers. All units will then unite for the finale and benediction.

Bunn is chairman for the songfest.

R. A. Hodges, band director, is newspaper publicity chairman, with Marion Martin and Ward A. Coleman assisting with newspaper and radio publicity.

Glee club directors, now working on the program details, are: Miss Annie Elkins, Hallsboro; Eugene Sasser, Williams; Mrs. W. W. Woody, Tabor City; Mrs. J. P. Powers, Cerro Gordo; Mrs. Bessie Rogers, Fair Bluff and Evergreen; Mrs. Shelby Bullard, Chadbourn; Miss Sue Wilson, Whiteville; Mrs. O. A. Newton, Old Dock-Nakina; and the director at Acme-Delco.

Sasser and Mrs. Woody are in charge of arrangements.

### NEW LIFE CLUB HOLDS MEETING

The New Life Home Demonstration club met this month with Mrs. A. D. Fipps and Mrs. Alton Fipps at the home of the former.

A dress review was held with clubwomen participating. First place ribbon went to Mrs. Vernon Morris, second to Mrs. Ralph Jolly and third to Mrs. Norman Stephens.

Mrs. Douglas Mills, Nutrition leader, gave a demonstration entitled "Better Meals For Your Money" and Mrs. Grady Patterson gave a talk on clothing.

Mrs. O. O. Watts reported on the cancer film "Self Examination of the Breast" and the club voted to make a contribution to the current Cancer drive.

Refreshments were served to about 30 members and three guests.

Earlier in the month a meeting was held with Mrs. Steward Huffaker in the interest of making Easter Corsages. A number of corsages were made from real flowers at the meeting.

### DR. RANDALL SPEAKS HERE

Dr. William Randall, dean of Wilmington Junior College, spoke to the local Rotary club at its regular weekly meeting at Mrs. Todd's Monday night. Dr. Randall related some of his experiences while serving with Army intelligence in Egypt during world war II.

John Sikes, publicity director of Wilmington Junior College was also present and introduced Dr. Randall.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Grainger and Mr. and Mrs. Levi Grainger spent the weekend in Washington, D. C. on a sight seeing trip.

### F.F.A BOYS ARE SECOND IN CONTEST

Tabor City's Future Farmers of America placed second in the livestock judging contest held in Chadbourn Monday and Whiteville took first honors.

In the beef heifer judging, Whiteville was first. They held similar position in the judging of Duroc Jersey breeding gilts and Tabor City was second in both events.

Bolivia FFA were first place winners in the dairy cow and heifers and Bladenboro was second.

The above four FFA teams will represent their respective schools at Elizabethtown in a similar contest on May 10.

Members of the Tabor City judging team are as follows: Beef heifers and swine—Travis Wright, Lynwood Ward, and Leonard Gore; Dairy cows and heifers—Clifford Gore, Jerry Cartrette and Marvin Ward.

S. L. Jackson and G. T. Johnson, local agricultural teachers coached the Tabor City judging teams.

### WOMAN'S CLUB SCRAPBOOK WINS RIBBON

The Tabor City Woman's Club Scrapbook won third place in the state wide contest at the North Carolina Federation Convention held in Winston Salem last week. A ribbon was presented to the club for the honor.

Mrs. G. W. Crutchfield was chairman for the scrapbook.

### ATTENDS CONVENTION

Miss Helen Butler, Miss Maude Butler and Miss Anne Brooks McGougan attended the State Convention of Delta Kappa Gamma at Pinehurst Saturday.

### Negro News Notes

The opportunity club held its meeting Wednesday afternoon, April 23, at the home of Mrs. Annie Ruth Reeves. The members were graciously served a delicious salad with crackers and punch. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Gracie L. Wilson.

A few words of encouragement were given to the club by the president, Mrs. Wilhemina Mobley. Words were given to the group as an every day rule and thought by Mrs. Mae Bell Bryant. The thought and rule for the week is "If our lips are kept from slip, five things observe with care from what we speak, to whom we speak, and how and when and where."

Mrs. Wilhemina Mobley, president, Mrs. Gracie L. Wilson, secretary, Elizabeth Davis, reporter.

### Senior Class Presents Play

On Monday May 5, 1952 at 8:00 P. M. the Senior class of the Tabor City Negro High School will present its Senior play, a three act comedy entitled "Saved By the Belle." Oddie Belle Gause has been selected to play the leading role.

"Saved By the Belle" is a well known success by Thomas Sutton, popular American playwright. Mr. Sutton is noted particularly for his portrayals of the lighter side of the American scene. One critic of the play has called him "The dramatist of the American family." According to the players, "Saved By the Belle" is one of his best efforts; it is described as a rapid-fire barrage of laughs, laughs and more laughs, warranted to keep any audience in continuous laughter throughout its entire three acts.

Please come out and enjoy an evening of fun. The admission is \$ .25 and \$ .35.

George Bryant Class Reporter

## Defense Snarls K.K.K. Trials

HUGE CROWD ATTENDS BRIDGE OPENING



Part of the huge throng which jammed every inch of the Pireway bridge at the big opening ceremony last Thursday afternoon are shown here. Free soft drinks were served to approximately 2,000 people. The speaking by many public officials was held from a platform in the center of the bridge.

### Many Attend Bridge Opening

PIREWAY — Brunswick and Columbus joined hands across the Waccamaw River here on Thursday afternoon as the formal opening of the new Pireway Bridge was held.

In a gay mood as they walked over and around the structure which cuts 20 miles from a trip from one side of the river to the other, a large crowd heard State and local officials express delight over completion of the bridge, drank soft drinks, listened to band music and watched balloons of welcome float in the air.

Music was furnished by the Columbus County Band, directed by R. A. Hodges, and the Charlotte High School Band under the direction of W. W. Jacobus.

Merchants of Tabor City gave the occasion a boost by giving away approximately \$1,000 in trade certificates to the visiting throng.

Politicians were plentiful as they sought to make hay while the sun was shining. One speaker observed that he would introduce them but it might embarrass the other three people in the audience.

Tabor City Mayor Al Williams acted as master of ceremonies for the occasion and Raymond B. Mallard expressed appreciation to the State Highway Commission for the bridge. Mallard told of "how much this bridge will mean to the people of Columbus and Brunswick Counties. It will make us better neighbors," he pointed out.

T. B. Gunter, chief bridge engineer of the state, told of new progress the bridge should bring to the area and also give some statistics on building the structure. Unlike cars, he said, bridges can't change models each year so the Highway Commission planned the bridge to serve needs of the area for years to come.

District Highway Commissioner A. Wilbur Clark of Fayetteville expressed his interest in the bridge and thanked the Tabor City Merchants Association for seeing fit to sponsor the opening ceremony.

Prior to the ceremony at the bridge at 2 p. m., a fresh water fish dinner was served in Tabor City to highway officials and dignitaries from Brunswick and Chadbourn HD — Thursday, lumbus Counties.

### LOCAL WOMEN ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

Mrs. J. C. Singletary, president of District 10, North Carolina Federation of Women's clubs, attended the convention held in Winston Salem last week and made the annual report for the district. She was accompanied by Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, official delegate from the Tabor City Woman's Club.

### PEGGY CARTER WINS CONTEST; P.T.A. NAMES NEW OFFICERS

Peggy Carter won first place in the World Peace Essay-Speaking contest sponsored by the Tabor City Woman's club at the Parent Teachers Association in the school auditorium Tuesday evening. Miss Carter daughter of Mrs. Mary Carter competed with four high school students for the honor. Honorable mention went to Mary Jo Pinner.

Miss Edith Stafford, chairman of the Literature and Education department of the Woman's club, presented the medal to Miss Carter. The paper will be entered by the club at headquarters for the 1952-53 North Carolina contest. An award will be presented at the 1953 convention to the club in the North Carolina federation entering the best paper, selected from contestants.

Mrs. R. P. Counts, president, presided at the P. T. A. meeting at which time the slate of new officers were elected.

Mrs. Counts was re-elected president, Mrs. Ralph Inman, vice president, Miss Kate Jones, secretary, and Mrs. F. C. Norris, Jr., treasurer. Mrs. F. F. Thompson made the report on the nominating committee.

Mrs. Smith's third grade and Miss Britt's seventh grade won the attendance trophies.

Mrs. F. C. Norris, Jr. and S. L. Jackson received the door prizes a cannon bath towel set and Old Spice after shave lotion given by Howard's Clothing Store and Dameron's Drug respectively.

### LEINWAND'S REOPENS HERE SATURDAY

Leinwand's store will open Saturday morning in the new location on Railroad street, next door to City Cafe. The building was formerly occupied by Meares.

The new store has been renovated and modernized with new equipment.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyman Leinwand started business here May 1, 1947 and recently opened the second store in Emporia, Va. Mrs. Leinwand will remain here for some time.

In making the announcement of the opening Saturday Mrs. Leinwand said "we would like to express our appreciation to all our friends and patrons who have made our business a success here and the public is invited to visit us in our new store."

### MERCHANTS WILL CLOSE WEDNESDAY

All members of the Tabor City Merchants Association will begin closing their business at 1:00 each Wednesday afternoon starting next week, May 7, Oliver Prince, president announced today.

The stores here will be closed each Wednesday until August, in keeping with a resolution passed by the organization several years ago.

### April Party Honors Mrs. Alton Stanley

Mrs. Alton Stanley was honored with a stork shower given by Mrs. Clinton Wright, Miss Violet Wright and Miss Esther Porter at the home of the former this month.

A sweet course was served by the hostesses after which the honoree opened the gifts.

The guest list included Mrs. James Puckett, Mrs. Lester Watts, Mrs. Paul Stephens, Mrs. Lynwood Wright, Miss Mary Wright, Mrs. Walt Spivey, Mrs. Buren Wright, Mrs. Dalton Willis, Mrs. Archie Phipps, Mrs. Burmon Jenerette, Mrs. Nettie Wright, Mrs. Roy Arnette, Mrs. Hilton Jacobs, Mrs. Rufus Wright, Mrs. Lonnie Wright, Mrs. Ruby Spivey, and Mrs. Floyd Watts.

### Canvass Underway For Cancer Fund

The Canvass for funds for the Tabor City drive, American Cancer Society, is now underway, local officials announced. The town has been zoned and members of the Woman's club along with other volunteer workers are making calls.

Tabor city is striving to raise \$800 as its part of the \$2200 goal for Columbus County.

"It is hoped that all local folk will contribute liberally due to the additional service the society is giving with the opening of the Cancer home in Lumberton," Mrs. Mae S. Young, county campaign chairman, said. Columbus was only asked to raise \$1500 last year, but due to the additional cost in the operation of the home for the indigent-incurable patients and for the increased research program more funds are needed for this year's work, Mrs. Young pointed out.

The Rainbow girls will hold Tag Day in the business district Saturday to carry an educational message and solicit funds.

WHITEVILLE, April 29—A puzzled Superior Court judge today adjourned a special one-week term of court called to try 27 alleged Ku Klux Klansmen in four Columbus County flogging cases.

Judge Clawson L. Williams continued the cases until next Monday, when a regular one-week term of court will begin here, so that he could study a defense motion that indictments against 13 defendants be quashed.

At the center of the legal snarl is a 1949 law which established a rotating grand jury system in Columbus. That law, admittedly faulty, led defense counsel to contend that the indictments against the 13 were brought by a grand jury which was illegally constituted.

When Judge Williams adjourned court, the first of 89 persons summoned as a special venire from New Hanover County were entering the courtroom. A venire of 150 was ordered, but only 89 persons on the list could be found.

The postponement of the trial until next Monday makes it virtually certain — barring wholesale pleas by the 27 — that all four flogging cases will not be tried during that week. On the following Monday — May 12 — seven of the 27 will be among the 11 men going on trial in federal court in Wilmington in a fifth flogging case.

### Ironie Note

An ironic note entered the trial today, before the adjournment was announced. Aaron Goldberg of Wilmington, member of a race constantly attacked by the Klan, was called in by defense attorneys to help select jurors from the special venire.

While defense attorneys asked that indictments against only 13 of the defendants be quashed, Judge Williams' ruling will apply to all 27 since the same grand jury brought indictments against the entire group.

The judge convened court at noon, recessed until 2:30 p. m., and then promptly adjourned the session. He said he did not want to put the county to unnecessary expense by risking a second trial if the defense motion proves valid. Meantime, he added, he is going to go over the legal tangle prior to next Monday.

Under the provisions of the 1949 law, the rotating grand jury was supposed to go into effect in Columbus in May of that year. Defense attorneys, supported by the court records, claimed in their motion yesterday that the new grand jury system was not put into effect until June, a month late. The grand jury which this year indicted the 27 white men was not legal since it was not the proper successor to the 1949 jury provided for by law.

It was generally agreed by Judge Williams, Solicitor Clifton L. Moore, and the other attorneys that the wording of the jury law was confusing. Some lawyers expressed the view that the law is so imperfect as to be invalid.

If the defense motion is allowed next Monday by Judge Williams, who will preside during the regular term, the process of forming a legally constituted grand jury and presenting the bills of indictment will begin all over again.

Also, if the defense proves that the grand jury which indicted the 27 men in these cases was illegally constituted, every indictment returned by Columbus County grand juries since 1949 could be thrown out as invalid, in the unofficial opinion of court observers.

The motion refers to the 13 men charged with kidnapping and flogging Woodrow Johnson, Whiteville mechanic. Other cases involve as victims Esther Lee Floyd, Negro; Dorsey Robinson, Negro; and Greer P. Wright, a painter.

One clue to the possible length of the trial, once it begins, is contained in the fact that attorneys for the 13 defendants in the Johnson case will have the right to excuse 78 prospective jurors on challenges, while the State may excuse a total of 52 at the discretion of the solicitor.

Two or more of the 27 defendants. (Continued on Page 8)